

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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August 2, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR

MR. BUNDY

SUBJECT: Status of Reply to Cuban Note on
Over-Flights

The Secretary recently sent the draft reply back to ARA for further work; he asked ARA to consider the desirability of sending no note at all (Castro knows our position, etc., etc.). Ed Martin and John Crimmins feel that a note should be sent and are working on a shorter version for the Secretary's consideration.

John Crimmins says that delivery of the reply will probably be delayed until we get a clearer idea of Castro's intentions with respect to the Cuban take-over of the American Embassy in Havana. There are indications (1) that Castro may be weakening in his original resolve to take the building with its contents, and (2) that he has not yet reached a firm decision. A tough reply on over-flights at this time might unfavorably affect Castro's still-fluid thinking on the American Embassy.

GC

Gordon Chase

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